

Remarks

Claims 1, 9, 11 and 15 are cancelled, and claims 2 - 8, 10, 12 - 14, 16 - 19 and 20 are amended. Claims 21 and 22 are newly added. No new matter is introduced by any of the amendments, and entry thereof is requested.

Claims 2 - 8, 10, 12 - 14, and 16 - 22 are in the application. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

The Amendments herein are made to further the application to allowance of claims deemed allowable and claims depending from allowable claims, and the amendments are made without disclaimer or prejudice to Applicants' right to prosecute claims directed to the subject matter thereof by way of one or more continuing applications.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter in the application. Particularly, the Examiner indicated that claims 7, 8, 12 and 16 - 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Original claim 7 depended directly from claim 1, and original claim 12 depended directly from claim 11. The claims have been amended accordingly.


Claim 7 is amended to incorporate the recitations of claim 1; and claims 2 - 6, 8 and 10 are amended to depend from amended claim 7. Claim 12 is amended herein to incorporate the recitations of claim 11; and claims 13, 14 and 20 are amended to depend from amended claim 12. Claims 16 - 19 are amended to refer to claim 14 rather than claim 15. Claim 21 depends from amended claim 7, and claim 22 depends from amended claim 12.

In view of the foregoing, claims 7 and 12 have been amended to incorporate all the recitations of the claims from which they depend, and are accordingly now in condition for allowance. All the claims now in the application depend directly or indirectly from claim 7 or claim 12 and accordingly all are believed to be in condition for allowance, and action to that effect is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is being filed within the third month following the shortened statutory period set by the Examiner and, accordingly, it is accompanied by a Petition for three months' extension of time and a fee or fee authorization therefor. If the Examiner determines that additional fee[s] may be required in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account 50-0869 (Order No. CPAC 1001-1).

If the Examiner determines that a conference would facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' representative, undersigned, at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

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